deration to give monthly conveyance allowance to Central Government employees in near future;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) The Board of Arbitration (JCM) have given an Award on 15th December, 1989 that the Non-gazetted Central Government Employees, except those who enjoy the benefit of free or subsidised transport or transport subsidy for travel between their residence and place of duty or are in receipt of Conveyance Allowance for that purpose, should be given a transport subsidy of Rs. 30l- per employee per month with effect from 1-4-1989. The above Award is under consideration of the Government.

India's participation in the year of Tourism, 1990-91

*46. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are participating in the year of Tourism 1990-91;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the likely increase in revenue through this project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The year 1991 will be observed as the year of Tourism in the country with a view to focus attention on India as the Destination of the 90s. Its main objectives are as under:—

(i) Development of the tourism product for future growth of tourism;

(ii) National awareness of the socio-economic benefits of tourism;

(iii) Improving the international image of the country as a tourist destination

(iv) Creation of climate conducive for growth of tourism in the country.

(c) It is not possible to separately assess increase on account of this project.

Smuggling activities on Goa coast

*47. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of increased smuggling activities on Goa coast in the recent past; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to combat smuggling more effectively in this region?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) It is not possible to have any reliable estimate about its increase or decrease on the Goa Coast. However, two seizurs of silver worth Rs. 1.8 crores approximately and Rs. 1.66 crores approximately were effected on 31-1-1990 and 12-2-90 by the Police and Customs respectively. This is not necessarily indicative of increased smuggling activity.

(b) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country including that on the Goa Coast has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained with all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. Regular patrolling of the sea by the Customs and the Coast Guard is being undertaken and recently the services of Naval Helicopters have also been utilised for patrolling.